



United Nations Activity Report

Sigma United Nations volunteer representatives Dania Al-Itani, Pennie Sessler Branden, and Valerie Clary-Muronda were able to attend the United Nations Secretary-General Townhall Meeting with Civil Society. This event provided civil society organizations an opportunity to engage with [Secretary-General António Guterres](#) and his senior leadership on topics pertaining to gender equality and the work of the United Nations.



INVITATION TO:

CSW63 Townhall Meeting of Civil Society and United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres

**Tuesday, 12 March 2019,
1:15 PM - 2:30 PM**

Conference Room 4
United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY 10017

Overflow room: Conference Room 1

Moderated by UN Women Executive Director,
Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

Report Submitted by Valerie Clary-Muronda, Sigma United Nations Liaison

This forum was an opportunity for individuals and groups to pose questions to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General gave a very brief speech outlining the efforts the United Nations is making to improve conditions for women working within the United Nations, and for women outside the United Nations who come in contact with United Nations staff. Sigma United Nations liaison Penny Sessler Branden and Sigma United Nations youth representative Dania Al-Itani posed a question to the Secretary-General asking if the organization understands the impact of nurses on many of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), suggesting that nurses are included at the table for most discussions.

Sigma is an organization that impacts the lives of women on many levels. The session impacts many SDGs directly and indirectly: SDG 1-No Poverty; SDG 2-Zero Hunger; SDG3-Good health and well-being; SDG 4-Quality Education; SDG 5-Gender Equality; SDG 8-Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 9-Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG 10-Reduced Inequalities; SDG 16-Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions; and SDG 17-Partnerships for the Goals. Sigma should continue to make its presence known at the UN and continue the discussion regarding the impact that nurses make every day on the health and wellness of individuals around the globe.

Why is this important to Sigma members? Sigma members should be aware of the issues facing different populations globally, because those issues affect everyone in a global community, and a better understanding of the rest of the world allows us to make a more significant impact on the health and lives of those we come in contact with in our various areas of impact: community health, inpatient and outpatient care services, education, research, and health and business industries.